

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

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R 140250Z DEC 76
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6923
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCPAC FOR POLAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 PEKING 2559

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, CH
SUBJ: ANTI-MAO, ANTI-HUA FLIERS INSERTED IN INTERNATIONAL MAIL
TO USLO AND JAPANESE CORRESPONDENT

REF: PEKING 154, PEKING 1756

1. BEGIN INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY. USLO HAS RECENTLY
RECEIVED IN TWO PIECES OF INTERNATIONAL MAIL SENT FROM
NEW YORK CITY AN UNDATED CHINESE-LANGUAGE PRINTED FLIER
ENTITLED "CAPITAL PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE TO MOURN THE PREMIER
VIEWPOINTS AND STATEMENT CONCERNING A CONTEMPORARY
POLITICAL INCIDENT." TO OUR EYES IT IS FLAWLESS IN USE
OF SIMPLIFIED CHARACTERS AND STANDARD PRC PARLANCE, BUT
NONETHELESS STRIKES US AS A MORE-CLEVER-THAN-USUAL ROC
FORGERY. THE DOCUMENT HAILS THE FALL OF THE GANG OF
FOUR, DEVELOPS THE ARGUEMENT THAT MAO'S ENCOMIUM "WITH
YOU IN CHARGE I'M AT EASE" WAS FORGED BY THE GANG OF
FOUR AND COOPTED BY HUA KUO-FENG, CALLS FOR SMASHING
OF THE "CHIN SHIH HUANG-STYLE FASCIST DICTATORSHIP,"
AND APPLAUDS CHOU EN-LAI AND HIS PROGRAM FOR CHINA'S
MODERNIZATION. A JAPANESE NEWSMAN BASED IN PEKING
RECEIVED IN INTERNATIONAL MAIL FROM TOKYO A SEPARATE
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HANDWRITTEN FLIER SIGNED BY A "CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY

CENTRAL COMMITTEE MARXIST THEORY GROUP," DATED SEPTEMBER 1976, AND ADDRESSED TO "PEOPLE OF THE ENTIRE PARTY, ENTIRE ARMY, AND ENTIRE COUNTRY." THE THREE-PAGE DOCUMENT HARSHLY ATTACKS THE DECEASED MAO AS A "CONTEMPORARY CHIH SHIH HUANG," CALLS FOR NATIONWIDE CRITICISM OF MAO'S "CRIMES," AND CLOSES WITH THE SLOGANS "LONG LIVE SINO-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP" AND LONG LIVE THE MARXIST-LENINIST COMMUNIST PARTY OF CHINA." CRUDER IN STYLE THAN THE FLIER RECEIVED BY USLO, THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS SEVERAL OBVIOUS ERRORS OF PRC USAGE. WHILE JAPANESE EMBASSY IS NOT PREPARED TO DISMISS POSSIBILITY OF PREPARATION AND INSERTION BY ANTI-HUA GROUP IN PEKING, WE SEE IT AS TRANSPARENT DISINFORMATION PREPARED EITHER BY SOVIET UNION OR TAIWAN. A DISCREET CHECK WITH OTHER EMBASSIES INDICATES THAT ONLY USLO AND JAPANESE HAVE BEEN RECENT RECIPIENTS OF SUCH FLIERS. END INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY.

2. SEPARATE LETTERS FROM NEW YORK CITY SENT BY INTERNATIONAL AIRMAIL ON SEPTEMBER 29 AND OCTOBER 9 (FROM THE TEA ASSOCIATION OF THE USA, 230 PARK AVENUE, ZIP CODE 10017 AND JAMBOR ENTERPRISES INC., 90 WEST STREET, ZIP CODE 10006) BUT NOT RECEIVED AT USLO UNTIL EARLY DECEMBER CONTAINED A ONE-PAGE PRINTED CIRCULAR IN CHINESE ENTITLED "CAPITAL PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE TO MOURN THE PREMIER VIEWPOINTS AND STATEMENT CONCERNING A CONTEMPORARY POLITICAL INCIDENT." THE DOCUMENT OPENS WITH APPLAUSE FOR RELEGATION OF THE GANG OF FOUR TO HISTORY'S TRASHBIN, OBSERVING THAT THE TRUE SENTIMENT OF THE CHINESE PEOPLE HAD BEEN REFLECTED AT TIEN AN MEN ON APRIL 5 AND IN SUBSEQUENT RALLIES IN ILIANG, YUNNAN; IPIN, SZECHUAN; AND HANGCHOW, CHEKIANG. BUT HAVING SMASHED THE GANG OF FOUR, THE FLIER ASSERTS, "HUA KUO-FENG AND COMPANY" HAD CONTINUED ON THE "OLD, FEUDAL, FASCIST ROAD OF THE CONTEMPORARY CHIH SHIH HUANG AND THE GANG OF FOUR." "HUA AND COMPANY" HAD "STEALTHILY BROUGHT FORTH A SO-CALLED PERSONALLY-WRITTEN DIRECTIVE 'WITH YOU IN CHARGE I'M AT EASE'" SAYING THAT HUA WAS MAO'S PERSONALLY-DESIGNATED SUCCESSOR. BUT, THE FLIER ASSERTS, SUCH A CLAIM IS CONFIDENTIAL

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PATENTLY FRAUDULENT--HUA CANNOT PRODUCE THE ALLEGED DOCUMENT. THE PEOPLE MUST THEREFORE WONDER WHY THEY SHOULD NOT EXPLAIN THE QUOTE AS "WITH YOU ASSISTING CHIANG CHING TO HANDLE AFFAIRS, I'LL BE VERY MUCH AT EASE," FOR IF MAO HAD TRULY WISHED HUA TO SUCCEED HIM HE WOULD HAVE WRITTEN SMPLY "WITH YOU SUCCEEDING ME I'M AT EASE." CLEARLY, THE CAPITAL COMMITTEE CONCLUDES, THE DIRECTIVE WAS FORGED BY THE GANG OF

FOUR AND THEN COOPTED BY HUA KUO-FENG TO USURP PARTY AND STATE POWER FOR HIMSELF. THE FLIER THEN CLOSES WITH A RINGING APPEAL TO STRUGGLE TO THE END AGAINST ALL SCHEMERS AND AMBITIONISTS IN ORDER TO "DEFEND THE PURITY OF MARXISM-LENINISM, SAFEGUARD THE THOROUGH IMPLEMENTATION OF SOCIALISM IN CHINA, AND IMPLEMENT THE FOUR MODERNIZATIONS." FINAL SLOGANS CALL FOR SMASHING OF "CHIN SHIH HUANG-STYLE FASCIST DICTATORSHIP" AND "INFINITE CONCERN" ON THE PART OF PEOPLE OF THE WHOLE COUNTRY FOR PREMIER CHOU.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 PEKING 2559

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3. COMMENT:FACTUALLY AND STYLISTICALLY (SAVE FOR AN UNCOMMON INSERTION OF THE WORD "AND" IN THE PHRASE "WHOLE PARTY, WHOLE ARMY, WHOLE COUNTRY"), THE DOCUMENT IS WITHOUT OBVIOUS ERROR. BUT WE ARE SUSPICIOUS OF ITS INSERTION IN TWO LETTERS MAILED FROM NEW YORK CITY, ITS HARPING ON THE FAVORITE TAIWAN ACCUSATION THAT MAO WAS A "CONTEMPORARY CHIN SHIH HUANG," AND ITS CITATION OF MINOR RALLIES IN THE ILIANG AND IPING REGIONS RATHER THAN MORE SIGNIFICANT PRO-CHOU DEMONSTRATIONS IN MAJOR CITIES LIKE NANKING AND CHENGCHOW. WE SUSPECT THAT TAIWAN HAS DEVISED A MORE-CLEVER-THAN-USUAL BIT OF DISINFORMATION CALCULATED TO RAISE QUESTIONS ABOUT PRC STABILITY.

4. A PEKING-BASED JAPANESE NEWSMAN RECEIVED IN EARLY DECEMBER ANOTHER VIRULENTLY ANTI-MAO FLIER INSERTED IN A PIECE OF SURFACE CORRESPONDENCE SENT FROM TOKYO. ADDRESSED TO "PEOPLE OF THE WHOLE PARTY, WHOLE ARMY, AND WHOLE COUNTRY" AND SIGNED BY A "CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE MARXIST THEORY GROUP," THE FLIER IS HANDWRITTEN ON ROUGH PAPER AND DATED SEPTEMBER 1976. IT REFERS TO THE RECENT PASSING OF MAO AS A "HAPPY EVENT" WORTHY OF CELEBRATION BY THE WHOLE
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COUNTRY. BUT IT CLAIMS THAT A SMALL GROUP OF CULTURAL REVOLUTIONISTS (I.E. THE SINCE-DEPOSED GANG OF FOUR) ARE STILL PLOTTING TO PLACE THEMSELVES IN POWER WITH CHIANG CHING--THE EMPRESS DOWAGER--AS LEADER. PRAISING LIU SHAO-CHI, LIN PIAO AND TENG HSIAO-PING FOR ADVOCATING RATIONAL POLICIES IN THE NATIONAL AND POPULAR INTEREST, THE FLIER URGES EMULATION OF KHRUSHCHEV AND THE SOVIET COMMUNIST PARTY IN LAUNCHING AN IMMEDIATE DEMAOIZATION CAMPAIGN TO CRITICIZE MAO AND HIS THOUGHT. INCREDIBLY, THE FLIER CONCLUDES WITH A CHARACTERIZATION OF THE SOVIET COMMUNIST PARTY AND "FRATERNAL" SOVIET PEOPLE AS CHINA'S "MOST LOYAL FRIEND AND MOST POWERFUL SHIELD" AND CLOSES WITH THE SLOGANS "LONG LIVE SINO-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP" AND "LONG LIVE THE MARXIST-LENINIST COMMUNIST PARTY OF CHINA."

5. COMMENT: THERE ARE SEVERAL EVIDENT ERRORS OF PRC USAGE IN THE FLIER: UTILIZATION OF OLD CHARACTERS FOR SIMPLIFIED ONES AND EMPLOYMENT OF TERMS HEARD OFTEN IN TAIWAN BUT NOT IN THE PRC. IT IS A TOSSUP WHETHER TAIWAN OR THE SOVIETS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS RATHER TRANSPARENT PIECE OF DISINFORMATION, THOUGH THE JAPANESE EMBASSY IS NOT PREPARED TO DISMISS ENTIRELY THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE DOCUMENT ORIGINATED IN THE PRC.

6. A DISCREET CHECK OF FRIENDLY MISSIONS IN PEKING DID NOT TURN UP OTHER INSTANCES OF RECENT INSERTIONS OF FLIERS IN MAIL.

7. WILL POUCH COPIES OF DOCUMENTS TO DEPT. AND HONG KONG.
GATES

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